1: Roth--76-77
116, 752, 778

(No date) 1890

Tasmanians

"They treated a snake bite by boring the wound with a charred peg: stuffed it with fur, and then singed off the surplus to the level of the skin' (West, II. p. 90). 'The aborigines... often carried about with them one or other of the bones of the deceased [friend or relation] as a charm against adversity. Bones of the leg, arm, foot, and hand, the lower jaw, and even the skull, have in this way, and for this purpose, been found suspended round the necks of individuals amongst them' (Milligan, Beacon, p. 30). 'The aborigines use charms, and they wear the dead bones of their friends slung round their necks as such. Those that I have seen have been most commonly the jaw-bone, or the bone of the thigh; as also the skulls of children, the latter wrapped up in a skin. These bones are worn by people in perfect health, most probably as mementos of deceased relations; but if so, they lend them to others of their own tribe when ill, who wear them as charms round their necks' (Davies, p. 416-417). Dove also refers (pp. 252-253) to their 'anxiety to possess themselves of a bone from the skull or the arms of their deceased relatives, which, sewed up in a piece of skin, they wear round their necks, confessedly as a charm against sickness or premature death.' Barnard Davis says these charms were suspended by 'fine native cords' (Osteology, p. 9). Backhouse, [77] while considering them worn as tokens of affection, also found them used as charms, for he relates: 'A man who had a headache to-day had three leg bones fixed on his head, in the form of a triangle, for a charm' (ch. vii. p. 84)."

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"...Brough Smyth (II. pp. 398-399) has the following statment: 'It is said that they carried sacred stones, with which they could cause diseases among their enemies, and cure those that afflicted their friends; and that they had the same belief in the evils that could be worked by any one who might possess himself of a portion of their hair,' but we have been unable to trace his authority for this statement."